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-	- Kaolan						
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United States Patent [19]

Kaplan

Patent Number: [11]

5.963.916

Date of Patent:

*Oct. 5, 1999

[54] NETWORK AFFARATUS AND METHOD FOR PREVIEW OF MUSIC PRODUCTS AND COMPILATION OF MARKET DATA

[75] Inventor: Joshua D. Kaplan, Berkeley, Calif.

[73] Assignes: Intench Group, Inc., San Francisco, Call.

[*] Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

[21] Appl. No.: 00/741,915

[22] Filed: Oct. 31, 1996

Related U.S. Application Data

Continuation-in-part of application No. 08/668,327, Jun. 26, 1996, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/282,153, Jul. 28, 1994, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 08/035,661, Maz. 23, 1993, abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 07/957, 444, Oct. 6, 1992, Pat. No. 5,257,157, which is a continuation of application No. 07/582,253, Sep. 13, 1990, abandoned.

[51]	Int. Cl		G06F 17/60

[58]	Field of Se	mrch 235	462- 205/10

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ABSTRACT

A system for on-line user-interactive multimedia based point-of-preview. The system provides for a network web site and accompanying software and hardware for allowing users to access the web site over a network such as the internet via a computer. The user is uniquely identified to the web site server through an identification name or number. The hardware associated with the web site includes storage of discrete increments of pre-selected portions of music products for user selection and preview. After user selection, a programmable data processor selects the particular prorecorded music product from data storage and then transmits that chosen music product over the network to the user for preview. Subscriber selection and profile data (i.e. demoresplic information) can optionally be collected and stored to develop market research data. Since the system provides for multiple embodiments, the system contemplates previewing of audio programs such as music on compact discs. video programs such as movies and text from books and other written documents. Purthermore, it is contemplated that the network web site can be accessed fro n a publicly accessible kiosk, available, e.g. at a retail store location, or from a desk top computer.

18 Claims, 82 Drawing Shoets

